

Capsule Summary

Inventory No. WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm
19826 Benevola Newcomer Road
Washington County, MD
Ca. 1870; ca. 1915
Access: Private

The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm is located on the edge of the historic rural hamlet of Benevola along the Old National Pike north of Boonsboro, in Washington County, Maryland. The farm consists of 125 acres of hilly pasture, cultivated fields, and meadowland along the Little Beaver Creek. Benevola Newcomer Road, running east-west from Old National Pike (Alt. Rt. 40) and Antietam Creek, bisects the farmstead between the house and barn. The building complex consists of the dwelling house and barn, eleven domestic and agricultural outbuildings, and one lime kiln structure. All of the buildings, structures, and the agricultural landscape included in the 125 acres are considered contributing to the historic significance of the Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm.

The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm is a significant example of a mid to late nineteenth century agricultural complex. Still actively in agricultural use, it is remarkably unchanged by modern building additions. The farm and building complex are significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with historical patterns of agricultural practice through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the mid-Atlantic region, and under Criterion C as a complex of domestic and agricultural buildings which retain distinctive design and construction techniques representative of

the region. As agricultural practice in the mid-Atlantic region shifted from general, grain production farming to a focus on dairy production in the 1930s and 1940s, most farm complexes acquired a number of distinctive dairy-related buildings. The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm is one of the few farms in the region, which does not include the c.1940s gambrel-roofed dairy barn and silos. A continued commitment to general farming into the 1960s, with no more than twenty milking cows at a time, meant there was no need for the large, sterile dairy barn, and the old barn's lower stalls have remained intact. This commitment also assured the maintenance of a number of associated buildings such as the Cold Room/Butchering Shed, Hog Pen, Chicken House, Hay Barn, and several Corn Cribs.

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1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Newcomer Farm; Green Meadows
other Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm (preferred)

2. Location

street and number 19826 Benevola Newcomer Road not for publication
city, town Boonsboro X vicinity
county Washington

3. Owner of Property (gives names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Richard H. & Kathleen Newcomer c/o Ruann George
street and number 19826 Benevola Newcomer Road telephone 201-739-3930
city, town Boonsboro state MD zip code 21713

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington Co. Courthouse liber 1631 folio 84
city, town Hagerstown tax map 68 tax parcel 3 tax ID number N/A

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☒ Other: Maryland Historic Sites Survey (1978)

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> Defense	13 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic	1 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> Education	14 structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> Funerary	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> Government	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			2

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/>	excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins
<input type="checkbox"/>	fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary

The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm is located on the edge of the historic rural hamlet of Benevola along the Old National Pike north of Boonsboro, in Washington County, Maryland. The farm consists of 125 acres of hilly pasture, cultivated fields, and meadowland along the Little Beaver Creek. Benevola Newcomer Road, running east-west from Old National Pike (Alt. Rt. 40) and Antietam Creek, bisects the farmstead between the house and barn. The building complex consists of the dwelling house and barn, eleven domestic and agricultural outbuildings, and one lime kiln structure. All of the buildings, structures, and the agricultural landscape included in the 125 acres are considered contributing to the historic significance of the Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm.

Description

The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm sits on the west side of the Old National Pike, now Alternate Route 40. Benevola Newcomer Road, described in an 1866 deed as "the road leading from David H. Newcomer's flouring mill to his sawmill," cuts through the northern quarter of the farm and joins the Pike just east of the farm's building complex at the historic mill village of Benevola. There, David Newcomer's mill, powered by the waters of the Little Beaver Creek, operated until about 1915. Although the mill complex at Benevola is gone, The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm forms a historic backdrop for the dwellings and associated buildings of Benevola, which remain as a cluster along the Pike.

The north quarter of the farm, primarily pastureland in the floodplain of Little Beaver Creek is the source of the farm's Green Meadows name. Sited on a low terrace above the floodplain is the farm's building complex, with the domestic buildings located on the north side of Benevola Newcomer Road and the barn complex on the south side of the road. An expanse of approximately sixty acres of cultivated field lies between the Pike and the barn complex, from the south edge of Benevola Newcomer Road and continuing to the southern boundary of the farm. To the west, behind the barn complex, the land rises sharply, forming the rolling fields of the remaining approximately forty acres of pasture and cultivated fields.

All of the buildings associated with the Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm are painted "barn red." The farm has an extremely well maintained appearance and is relatively unchanged since the turn of the twentieth century. The building complex is divided into two groups by Benevola Newcomer Road, both groups are immediately accessible from the road. On the north side of the road is the domestic building complex, consisting of the dwelling house, smokehouse/freezer room, chicken house/privy/wood shed, hog pen, and

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springhouse/cold room/butchering shed. Clearly, several of these building have multiple uses, making this complex well ordered.

The dwelling house is a two-story, three-bay brick construction on limestone foundation, built c.1860. It has a two-bay ell addition (c.1880) on the west (back) elevation, which historically had a two-story porch but which was removed in the 1960s for the addition of the one-story family room now standing. The original section of the house is common bond brick construction on all elevations. Window treatments include standing brick flat arches on the first story and wide wood lintels on the second story. The central front (east elevation) door has paneled jams and a three-light transom. A similar treatment was given the back exterior door (now enclosed by the ell). Windows are six over six sash all around. There are brick interior gable end chimneys.

The interior of the front section of the dwelling was altered in the mid-twentieth century, however the original floor plan is still apparent. The first floor had a front parlor, into which the front door opened, with a room (described by the occupants as a bedroom) behind. A smaller room on the north end of the house was entered through an interior door from the parlor. The room ran the width of the front section, was treated with low wainscoting, and included a boxed winder stair on the west wall (actually centered within the house). A large fireplace, now enclosed, is located on the north wall. The second story was divided into three small chambers and a stair landing. The stair landing now includes a bathroom.

The frame ell service addition, also now much altered on the interior, included a kitchen with rooms above. A shed washroom addition was attached to the north wall of the kitchen around 1900; this was enlarged slightly after 1940 and serves as storage currently. In the 1960s, the exterior two-story porch was removed from the ell addition and a one-story frame family room was added, a configuration that remains today.

Immediately north of the kitchen addition is a concrete block smokehouse. This replaced an earlier smokehouse on the site, c.1950. A freezer room was added to the west side of the smokehouse and is identical in exterior design. The room houses an electric chest freezer. Both rooms have tongue-in-groove panel doors with cast iron box locks. The shed roof is sheet metal.

Just west of the smokehouse/freezer room is an oddly shaped frame building constructed in several phases. The original building, on the west end, is a frame chicken house with vertical plank board and batten siding. Multi-pane windows and a plank door are located in the south elevation. The floor is exposed dirt; the shed roof is covered with sheet metal. None of the interior roosting structure is extant and the building is deteriorated although it appears maintained on the exterior. Historically, much of the west (rear) house yard was fenced as a chicken yard. Adjoining the chicken house on the east elevation, but with a slightly differently angled south elevation (see site plan), is a combination wood

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shed/privy. The wood shed is a frame construction with vertical plank siding, shed roof, and dirt floor. Located within the southwest corner of the wood shed is a one-hole frame privy. Both the privy and the wood shed have a plank door on the south elevation.

Continuing in a straight line west is the hog pen, a small frame gable-front barn with exterior shed-roofed pens extending along the east elevation. The siding is vertical plank; the roof is sheet metal. Entering through the door in the south gable end, the building has plank flooring and exposed light timber framing. Along the west wall is a framed corncrib, no longer enclosed; along the east wall are interior pens; feeding troughs line the central passage. A loft serves as storage.

At the western end of the house yard, just west of the hog pen, is a shed-roofed open spring accessed by massive cut limestone steps. Limestone walls line the west side of the deep spring area; along the south side of the sunken area is a massive stone butchering hearth with brick chimney. The large firebox, which held three kettles, is enclosed with four iron panel doors. The north wall of the spring area is formed by the stone lower story of a stone and frame two-story building. The lower story served as a cold room for milk storage. Entered through a plank door adjoining the spring area, the room is plastered and whitewashed; the floor is concrete and a concrete trough carries the cold spring water through. Steel pipe shelves hang along the east wall where washed milk cans were set to dry upside-down. The frame upper story has an east-facing gable front with steps up to the door. The siding is plank board and batten. The room was used for storage of butchering equipment.

The relatively narrow house yard runs west, parallel to the north side of Benevola Newcomer Road. The north side of the yard area, along which the series of domestic outbuildings run, is defined by the edge of the floodplain terrace. The yard is fenced along the north and west with post and wire fencing. Historically, on the terrace beyond the west end of the yard was the farm's apple orchard, no longer extant.

On the south side of Benevola Newcomer Road is the barn complex. Dominated by the large Pennsylvania Standard bank barn, the complex also includes a carriage house (now attached to the barn by a shed roof extension), a privy-sized milk house, loafing sheds, hay barn, corncrib, garage/blacksmith shop, and two equipment sheds.

The barn's forebay elevation faces east, aligned with the dwelling house. The cantilevered forebay is enclosed by the stone foundation on the north end. The superstructure of the barn is timber frame with vertical board siding. The roof is sheet metal with three decorative filagreed metal ventilators. These metal ventilators replaced wood box cupola ventilators in the early twentieth century. Small rectangular louvered vents with simple pointed architraves are located on the south, north, and east upper elevations. Incorporated within the barn's roof on the north end is a wagon shed with a corncrib along the north wall. Although the horse stalls in the lower level of the barn are said to have been reoriented over the years, the cow stalls apparently were not. Original wood milking

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stanchions remain in this central section of the lower level. The southern-most room in the lower level served as a feeding room; it has metal stanchions, however, wood grain bins and grain chute from the floor above remain. In the southwest corner of the feeding room, the flooring of the corner above is cut away to expose light from a corner window above. The upper floor of the barn, entered from the west, bank-side of the barn, contains the threshing floor with hay mows on either side, and a wood frame interior granary. Sliding plank doors open on both the east and west elevation. Two underground concrete cisterns fed by the roof guttering system serve the barn.

A small, mortise and tenoned timber frame buggy shed, originally a stand-alone building, is now incorporated under a shed-roofed, tractor shed addition on the north end of the barn. The buggy shed is entirely intact within the addition. It is one bay wide with strap hinged doors and vertical plank siding. Immediately off the northwest corner of the buggy shed is a small frame building, about the size of a privy, but described as a milk house. It was moved to this out-of-the-way location and converted to storage, probably around 1940.

Shed roof additions to the southeast corner of the barn are used as winter loafing sheds for the current herd of dairy cows. These were added in the middle of the twentieth century. Southeast of the main barn, now attached by the southeast end of the loafing shed, is a hay barn. It is also a timber frame structure with vertical plank siding and sits on a limestone foundation. The barn served for additional hay storage as well as beef cattle stalls. The barnyard formed by the main barn, loafing sheds, and hay barn, is enclosed with post and plank fencing and concrete block walls. The barn is currently used for storage. The lower level of the barn is no longer used to house dairy cattle. The farmland, pasture and buildings are at present leased to a neighboring farmer.

South of the hay barn is a wood frame shed-roofed stand-alone corncrib. The frame sits on brick piers; the walls are slatted for ventilation. An identical corncrib reportedly was located at the top of the hill west of the barn, but was removed due to deterioration.

Northwest of the barn, on the south edge of Benevola Newcomer Road, is a frame, gable-front garage erected c.1915 following the purchase of the family's first automobile. The building is now covered with aluminum sheet siding, however the original board and batten siding is exposed along the south wall where a shed-roofed blacksmith shop was added shortly after the garage was built. The shop includes a brick chimney resting on an iron smithing table (see photo). A small room on the west end of the garage holds a workshop with pot-bellied stove.

West of the barn complex, along a tractor road that runs in a southwesterly direction through the hill pastureland, are two frame equipment sheds.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	
Specific dates	N/A	Architect/Builder	unknown		
Construction dates	c. 1870; c. 1915				
Evaluation for:					
<input type="checkbox"/> National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland Register	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	not evaluated		

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary of Significance

The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm is a significant example of a mid to late nineteenth century agricultural complex. Still actively in agricultural use, it is remarkably unchanged by modern building additions. The farm and building complex are significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with historical patterns of agricultural practice through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the mid-Atlantic region, and under Criterion C as a complex of domestic and agricultural buildings which retain distinctive design and construction techniques representative of the region. As agricultural practice in the mid-Atlantic region shifted from general, grain production farming to a focus on dairy production in the 1930s and 1940s, most farm complexes acquired a number of distinctive dairy-related buildings. The Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm is one of the few farms in the region, which does not include the c.1940s gambrel-roofed dairy barn and silos. A continued commitment to general farming into the 1960s, with no more than twenty milking cows at a time, meant there was no need for the large, sterile dairy barn, and the old barn's lower stalls have remained intact. This commitment also assured the maintenance of a number of associated buildings such as the Cold Room/Butchering Shed, Hog Pen, Chicken House, Hay Barn, and several Corn Cribs.

Historical Narrative

The tiny village of Benevola along the Old National Pike in Washington County has long been associated with the Newcomer family. Land surrounding the Newcomer gristmill at Benevola moved in and out of Newcomer ownership as well as other established families such as the Eaveys, Emmerts, and Murrys. The mill, located on the Little Beaver Creek as early as 1794 (Griffith Map), stimulated the growth of the village to eventually include a

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store, post office, and number of houses. The Boonsboro and Hagerstown Turnpike, also known as a section of the National Pike, was an important early link between Baltimore and the National Road at Cumberland, Maryland. Farms and mills with direct access to this vital route to the markets and port of Baltimore were given a special economic advantage in the expensive business of transportation of their agricultural products. Heavily traveled through the nineteenth century, the National Pike spawned significant growth in agricultural and transportation-related commerce along its length.

The western acreage of the Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm was part of a 70 ½ - acre tract of land purchased by Peter Newcomer (Great-great-great grandfather of the current owner) in 1810 but sold in 1822 following Peter's death.¹ This parcel and several adjoining became part of the neighboring Eavey farm. In 1852, the heirs of Susannah Eavey sold to John Murray a 74-acre tract on the west side of the Boonsboro turnpike, on "the public Road leading from the Boonsboro and Hagerstown turnpike road to Booth's Dam..."² The former Peter Newcomer tract remained in Eavey ownership, adjoined to the west by Leonard Emmert.³ By the 1850s, David H. Newcomer operated the gristmill on the east side of the turnpike at Benevola and also owned a parcel to the west. The relation of these various parcels to each other, to Benevola, and to the David H. Newcomer mill can be seen on the 1859 map of Washington County (see attached copy).

John Murray purchased the 74-acre farm along the turnpike from the Eavey heirs for \$4,460, or \$60 per acre. This price implies that there may have been some improvement on the property at the time of purchase. By the time of Murray's death in 1869, improvements included a brick house in the village of Benevola, fronting directly onto the pike in the northeastern most corner of the parcel, and a farm complex, apparently added to the property as a tenant operation. Murray's executor, Joshua Harp, subdivided the property, selling the Benevola house to the widow, Elizabeth Murray, with a half-acre lot.⁴ The remaining 73 ½ acres were advertised in the local newspaper for public sale, to be held "at Newcomers Store at Benevola, on Saturday, January 1st, 1870."⁵ The farm improvements described included,

...a two story Brick Dwelling, a Barn, and other out buildings. There is on this farm an Orchard of Choice Fruit Trees, and a never failing Spring of water near the dwelling. Possession given on the 1st of April next. The growing crops to be reserved, and the right to out, thresh and remove the same.

As the purchaser of 45 ½ acres, "with improvements thereon," David H. Newcomer paid \$135.05 per acre for the small, but clearly valuable farm.⁶ The southern most 28 acres were sold to Christian Hoover.⁷

Newcomer's purchase of the Murray farm was preceded in 1866 by his purchase of the 70 ½ -acre Eavey parcel adjoining to the west (formerly the Peter Newcomer tract), located on the same road to Booth's Dam but in this deed described as "the road leading from David H. Newcomer's flouring mill to his Saw Mill."⁸ In 1867, David and Ruann

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Newcomer sold a 9 1/2 -acre woodlot, "formerly laid out as a part of the dower of Mrs. Elizabeth Eavey," to neighbor and brother-in-law Leonard Emmert (see 1859 map).⁹

By 1870, at the time of his purchase of the Murray farm, David H. Newcomer was well established, living in an elegant brick house on the other side of the pike near his mill operation. U.S. Population Census data for the Benevola area shows that the residents were variously occupied as tollgate keeper, fence makers, millers, wagon makers, blacksmith, potter, carpenters, cooper, as well as a number of prosperous farmers. Newcomer's oldest son, Henry, was 26 years old and still living in the household.

It is likely that Henry occupied the Murray farm soon after 1870. Henry's son Fred was reportedly born in the first floor chamber of the small brick farmhouse in 1879.¹⁰ The house was enlarged probably in the 1880s as the family grew, adding a kitchen to the rear with upper story chambers and exterior porches. Despite these improvements and his long tenure on the farm, ownership was not transferred to Henry until after his father David's death in 1890.¹¹ Four years later, Henry Newcomer purchased the 28-acre parcel originally part of the Murray farm from the Hoover estate; with an addition of a 3/4 -acre lot in 1904, the farm reached its largest acreage of 135 1/2 acres.¹²

In 1912, Henry Newcomer and his wife Louisa sold the farm to their son Fred for \$13,000.¹³ Two years later, in 1914, Fred's son Richard was born in the same room of the house in which his father had been born. Another, different, new arrival would come to the farm in 1915, the first automobile, and a garage to house it. Few other changes had been made to the farm since 1870 however. The farm still used horses to pull the plows and wagons. The horses were housed in the barn along with a small herd of milk cows. Milk was kept chilled in a cold room built around part of the old spring and topped with a butcher shed in the 1890s. Decorative metal barn roof ventilators replaced original wood cupola vents after 1900 (see attached historic photo). At the same time, the old hinged barn doors to the threshing floor were replaced with sliding doors, but the straw was still blown out the forebay doors into the yard below as it always had been and would be for years to come. The fields still produced wheat as the cash crop and corn, oats, and barley for feed, but by 1923 the old Newcomer mill across the pike was gone, replaced by Kline's more modern mill operation on Beaver Creek just a short ride up the pike (see attached historic photo). Kline's also pressed the apples from the home orchard for cider.¹⁴

In 1925, Fred Newcomer purchased the bungalow built on the old mill lot as his retirement house. Richard and Kathleen Newcomer were married in 1938 and official took over management of the farm.¹⁵ In 1940, a new chicken house and hog pen were built, the smokehouse was replaced with a concrete block version in 1945, and the two corncribs were added in 1948.¹⁶ Although Richard continued general farming with a small herd of twenty milk cows, the demands of milking wore thin over the years and eventually switched to beef cattle before retiring in the 1960s. A neighboring dairy farmer now operates the farmland and barn under lease.

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Note: For Historical Context, please refer to *An Agricultural History of Mid-Maryland*, a Maryland Historical Trust grant funded context development project administered through The Catocin Center for Regional Studies, 2002-2003.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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- Griffith, Dennis. *Map of the State of Maryland*. 1794. In Edward Papenfuse and Joseph Coale III, *Atlas of Historical Maps of Maryland, 1608-1908*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1982.
- Herald and Torch, Hagerstown newspaper microfilm collection, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.
- Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson. *Illustrated Atlas of Washington County, Maryland, 1877*. Philadelphia, PA: H.J. Trudy, 1877.
- "Newcomer Farm" Century Farm Application, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture, 1994.
- Taggart, Thomas. *Map of Washington County, Maryland, 1859*. Washington Co. Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD.
- Washington County Land Records, Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD.
- Washington County Estate Records, Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 125 acres

Acreage of historical setting Approx. 5 acres

Quadrangle name Funkstown, MD Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is described by the outlines of Parcel 3, Washington County Tax Map 63 and 68, including the part of the 28-acre Hoover tract which is shown delineated on Tax Map 68, and excepting the three subdivided lots from the Hoover tract, shown as Parcels 16, 17, and 18.

The 125-acre farm encompasses the historic boundary of the Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm as it was composed in 1904 by Henry Newcomer, excepting the three subdivided lots described above, and a 10-acre lot (Parcel 246, Tax Map 63) which was conveyed to Richard and Kathleen Newcomer's daughter, Ruann George.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Paula S. Reed, PhD., Architectural Historian; Edie Wallace, Historian

organization Paula S. Reed & Associates, Inc. date 6 December 2002

street & number 105 N. Potomac Street telephone 301-739-2070

city or town Hagerstown state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Endnotes

¹ Ruann (Newcomer) George, Richard and Kathleen Newcomer, personal communication, November 2002.

² Washington Co. Land Record, DB IN 7, page 202, Eavey heirs to John Murray, March 24, 1852. Booth's Mill and dam were located on the Antietam Creek at the Upper Bridge, now encompassed by the Devil Backbone County Park. See attached 1859 map.

³ Washington Co. Land Record, DB IN 7, page 203; IN 7, page 516. Emmert may have been related to the Eavey family, possibly through Margaret, wife of Daniel Emmert, one of the Eavey heirs (IN 7, page 202).

⁴ Washington Co. Estate Records, List of Sales book Z, page 272.

⁵ Herald and Torch, December 15, 1869, microfilm collection, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.

⁶ List of Sales book Z, page 272.

⁷ Newcomer bought these twenty-eight acres back from Hoover in 1895, DB 104, page 248, most of which remain with the farm today (see attached tax map #68).

⁸ Washington Co. Land Record, DB LBN 1, page 553. This is now the road called Benevola Newcomer Road.

⁹ Washington Co. Land Record, DB LBN 1, page 669. Apparently Emmert had occupied and farmed this section of the former Eavey farm since c. 1852. Leonard Emmert was married to David H. Newcomer's sister, Sarah.

¹⁰ Ruann (Newcomer) George, Richard and Kathleen Newcomer, personal communication, November 2002; Century Farm Application, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture, 1994.

¹¹ Washington Co. Land Record, DB GBO 97, page 35.

¹² Washington Co. Land Records, DB 104, page 248 and DB 120, page 581. This ¾-acre lot was the former location of the turnpike tollhouse and gate, operated in 1870 (Census record) by Daniel Kitzmiller. Kitzmiller's estate sold the lot to Joseph Hershberger seven days before Hershberger sold it to Newcomer. Presumably this marked the end of toll collection on the turnpike.

¹³ Washington Co. Land Record, DB 139, page 591.

¹⁴ Ruann (Newcomer) George, Richard and Kathleen Newcomer, personal communication, November 2002; Century Farm Application, Maryland Dept. of

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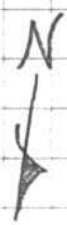
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Agriculture, 1994.

¹⁵ Ruann (Newcomer) George, Richard and Kathleen Newcomer, personal communication, November 2002; the farm was actually deeded to Richard Newcomer in 1956, DB 307, page 98.

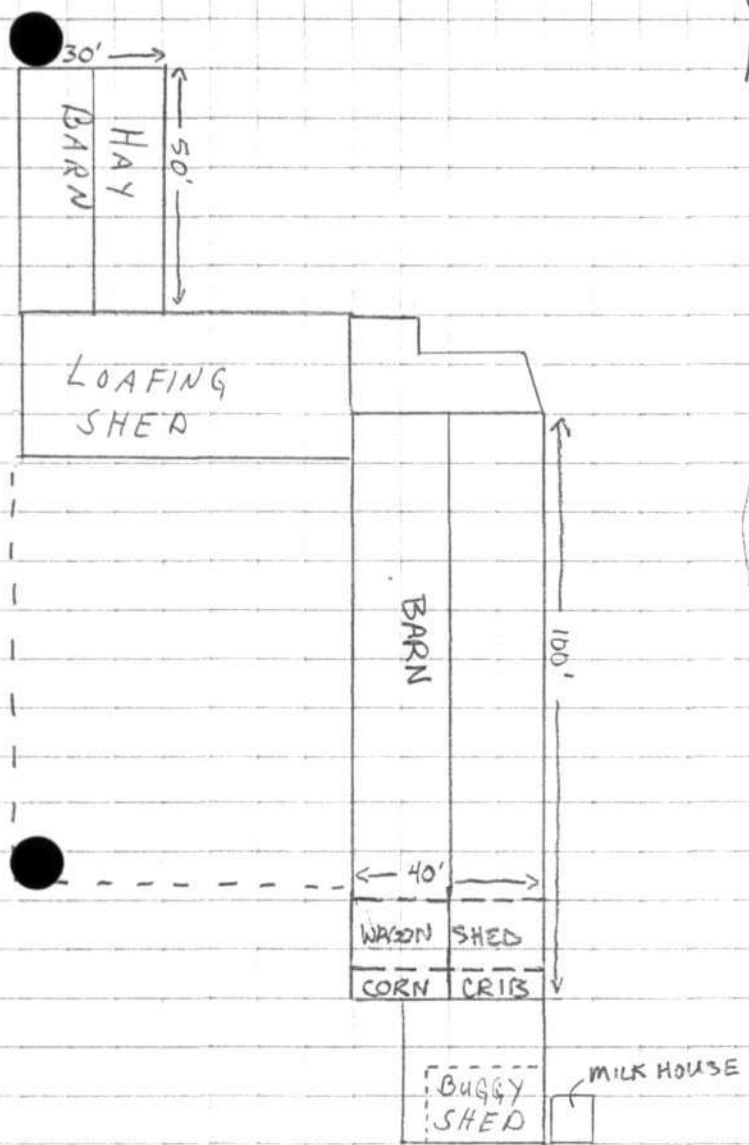
¹⁶ Century Farm Application, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture, 1994.

CORN CRIB
40'
5'



SITE PLAN
WA-II-209
GREEN MEADOWS/NEWCOMER FARM
WASHINGTON CO, MARYLAND

NOT TO SCALE

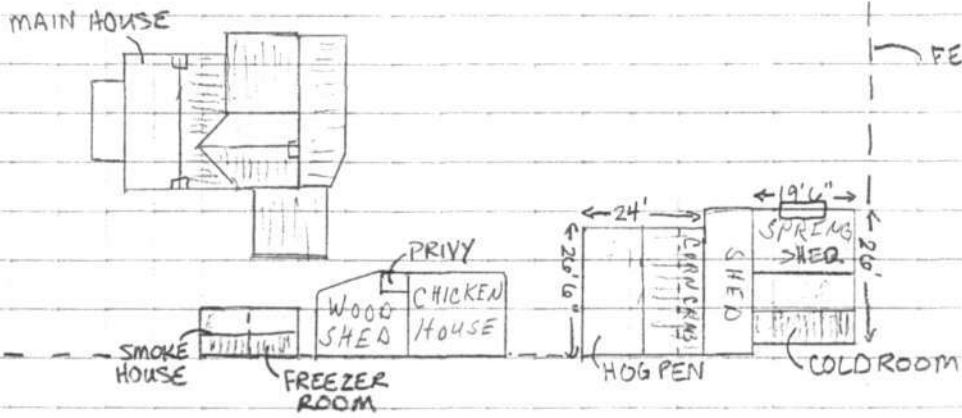


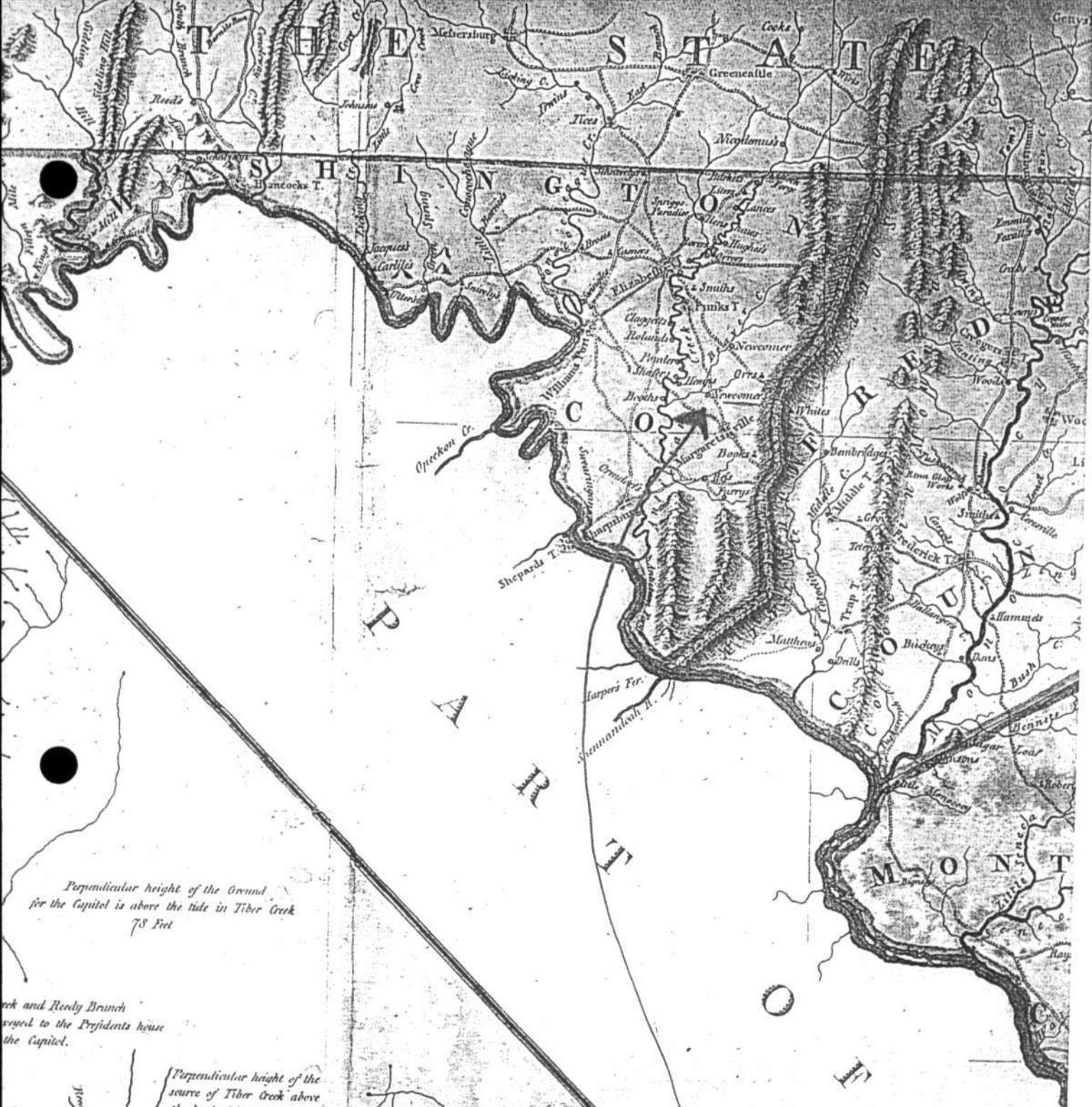
IMPLEMENT SHED

IMPLEMENT SHED

BLACKSMITH SHOP
GARAGE

BENEVOLA NEWCOMER ROAD

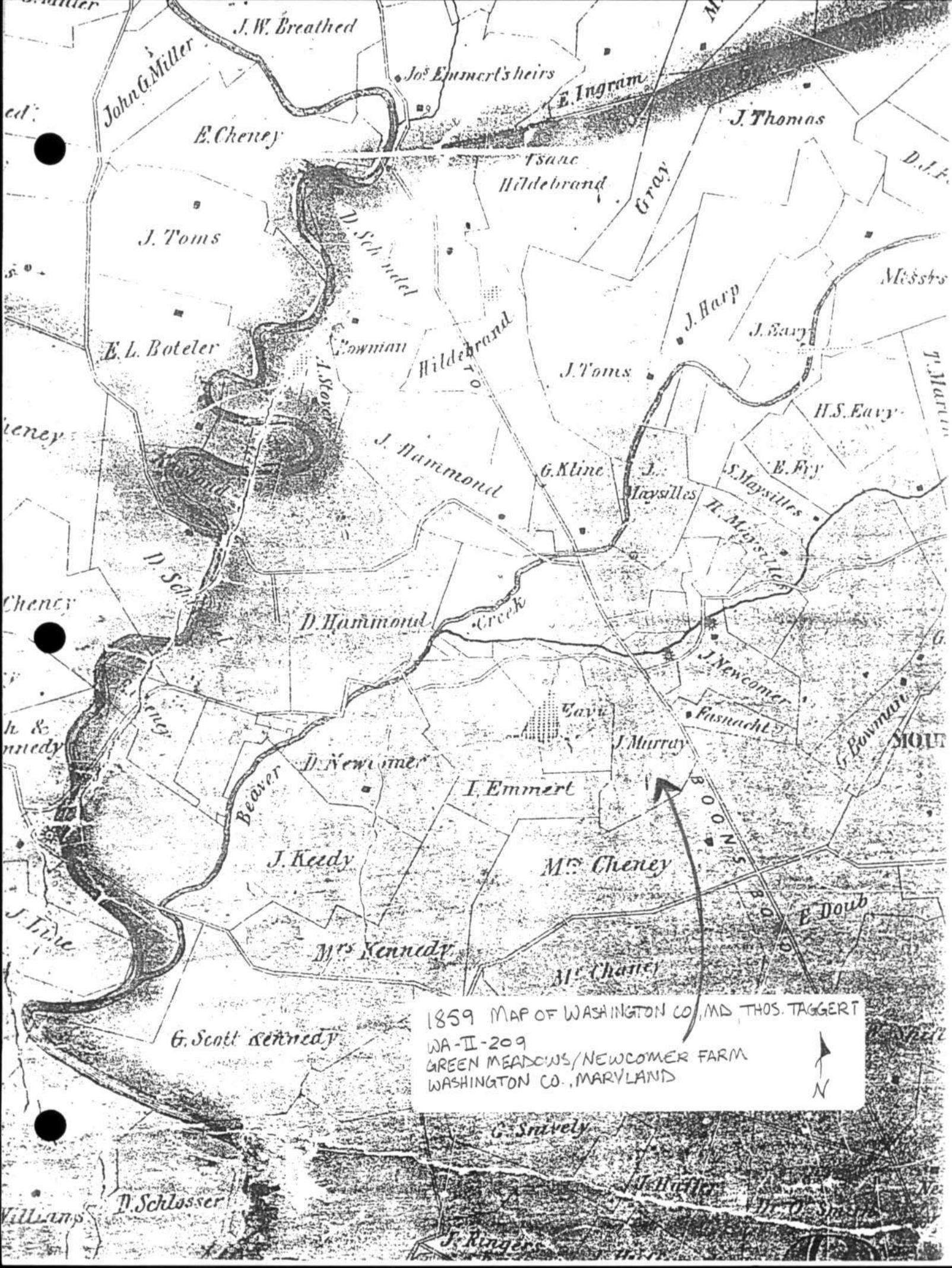




1794 Map of Maryland, Dennis Griffith
WA-II-209
GREEN MEADOWS/NEWCOMER FARM
WASHINGTON CO., MARYLAND



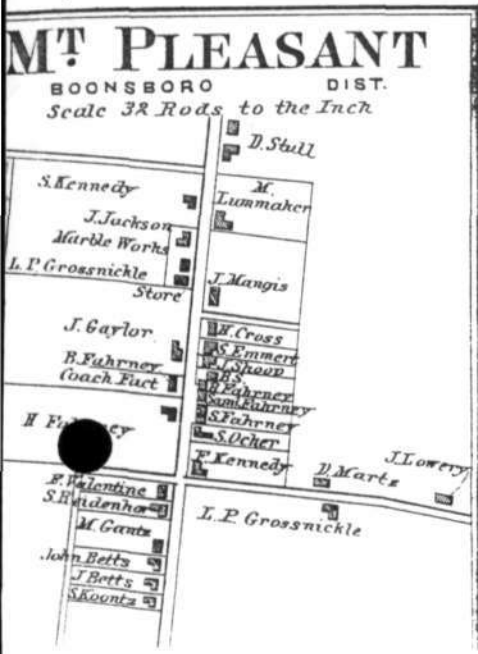
I
R



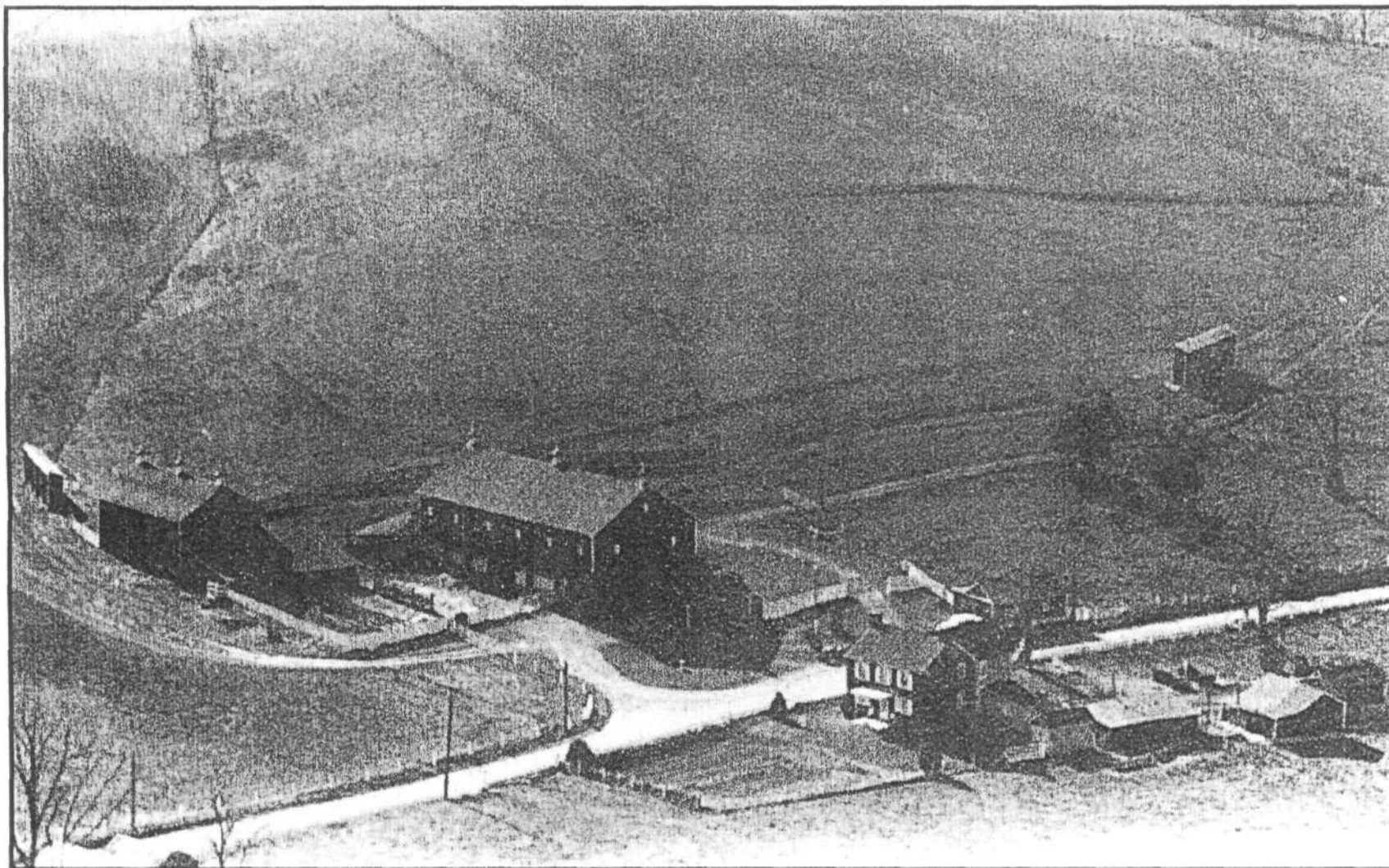
BOONSBORO

DIST. No. 6

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile



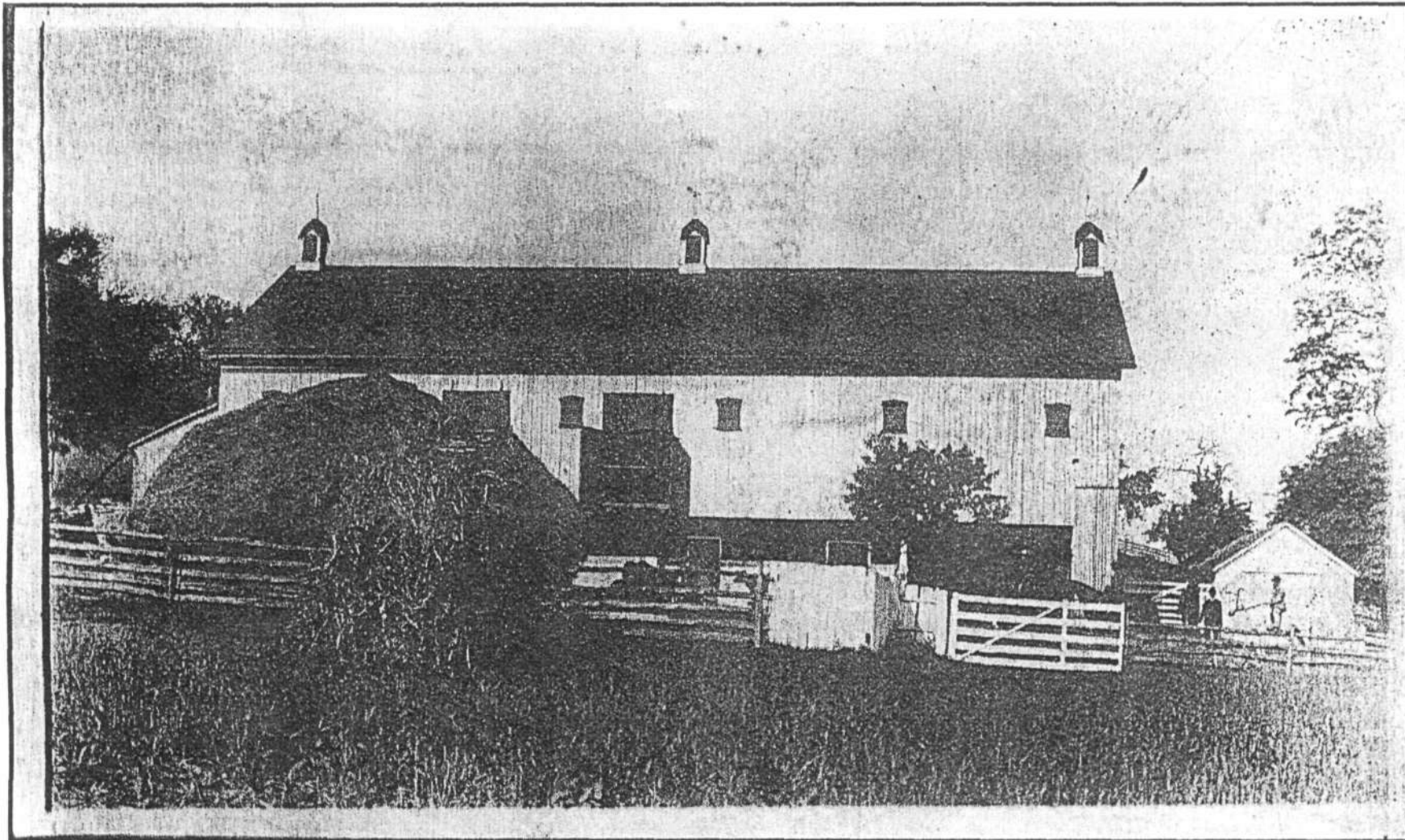
1877 ATLAS MAP OF WASHINGTON CO., MARYLAND
WA-II-209
GREEN MEADOWS/NEWCOMER FARM
WASHINGTON CO., MARYLAND



Newcomer Farm aerial photo, c. 1950. (courtesy Richard and Kathleen Newcomer)

WA-II-209

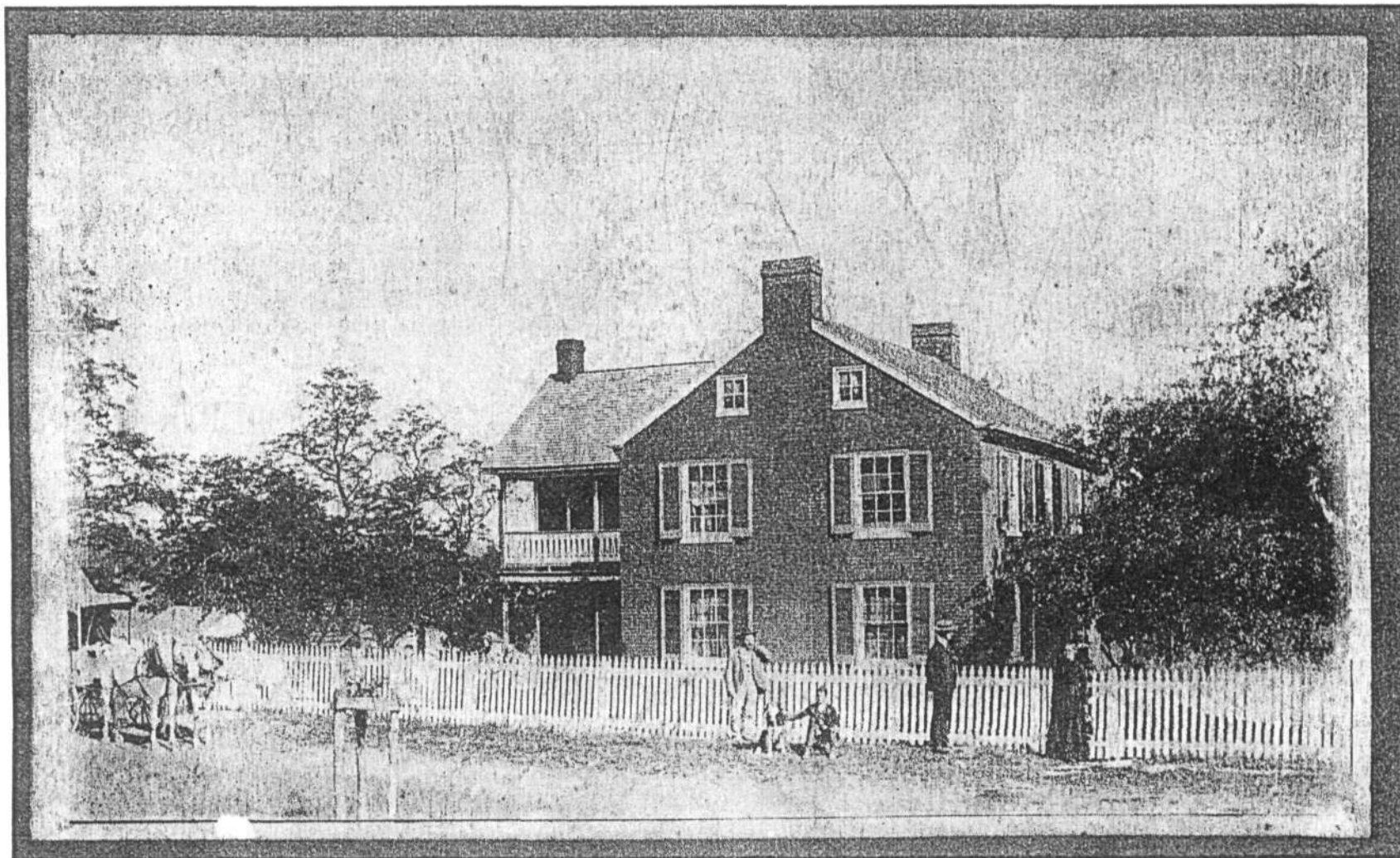
Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm
Washington Co., Maryland



Newcomer barn, c. 1900, note original cupola vents and hinged doors; carriage shed stands to the right. (courtesy Richard and Kathleen Newcomer)

WA-II-209

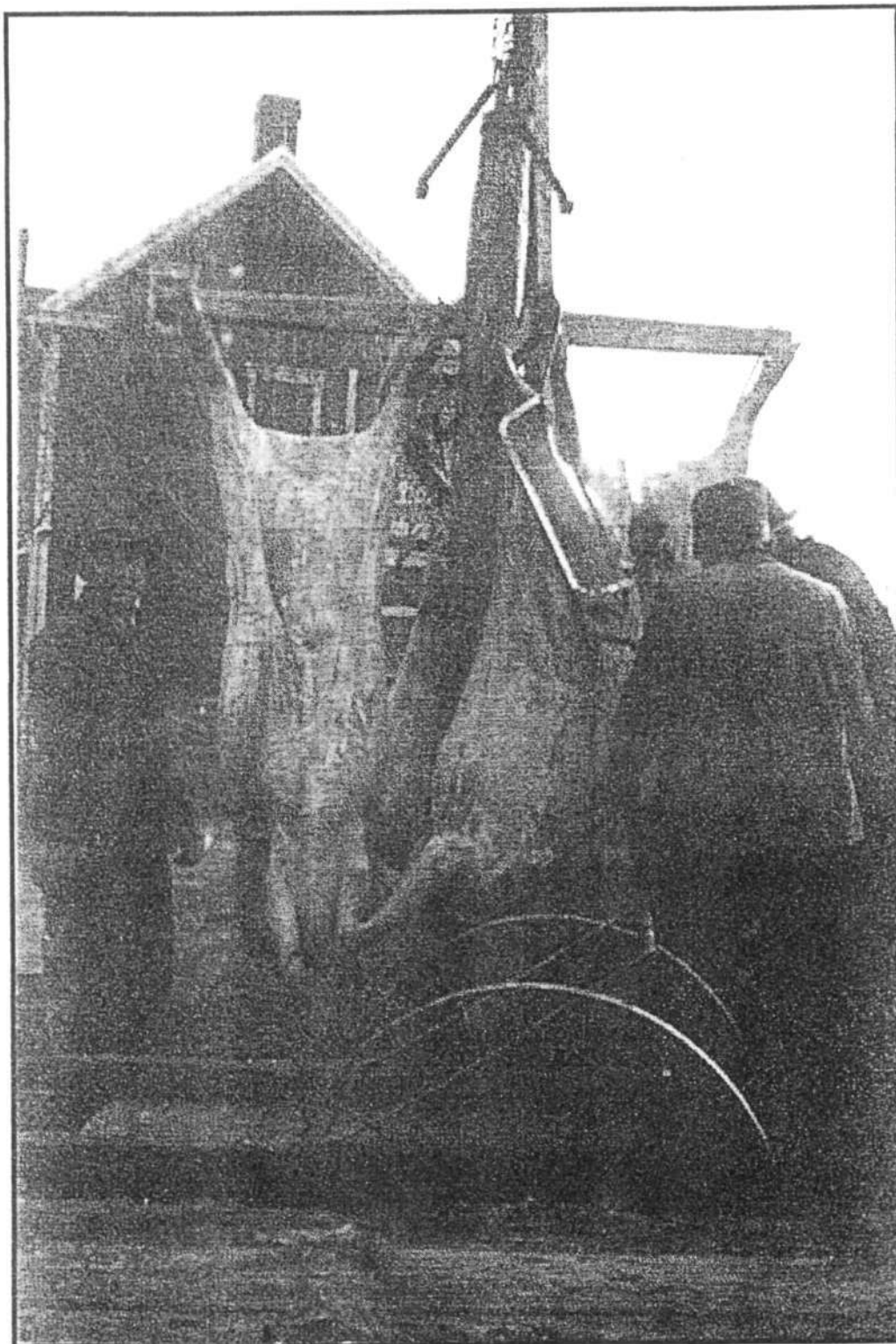
Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm
Washington Co., Maryland



Newcomer house, c. 1900. (courtesy Richard and Kathleen Newcomer)

WA-II-209

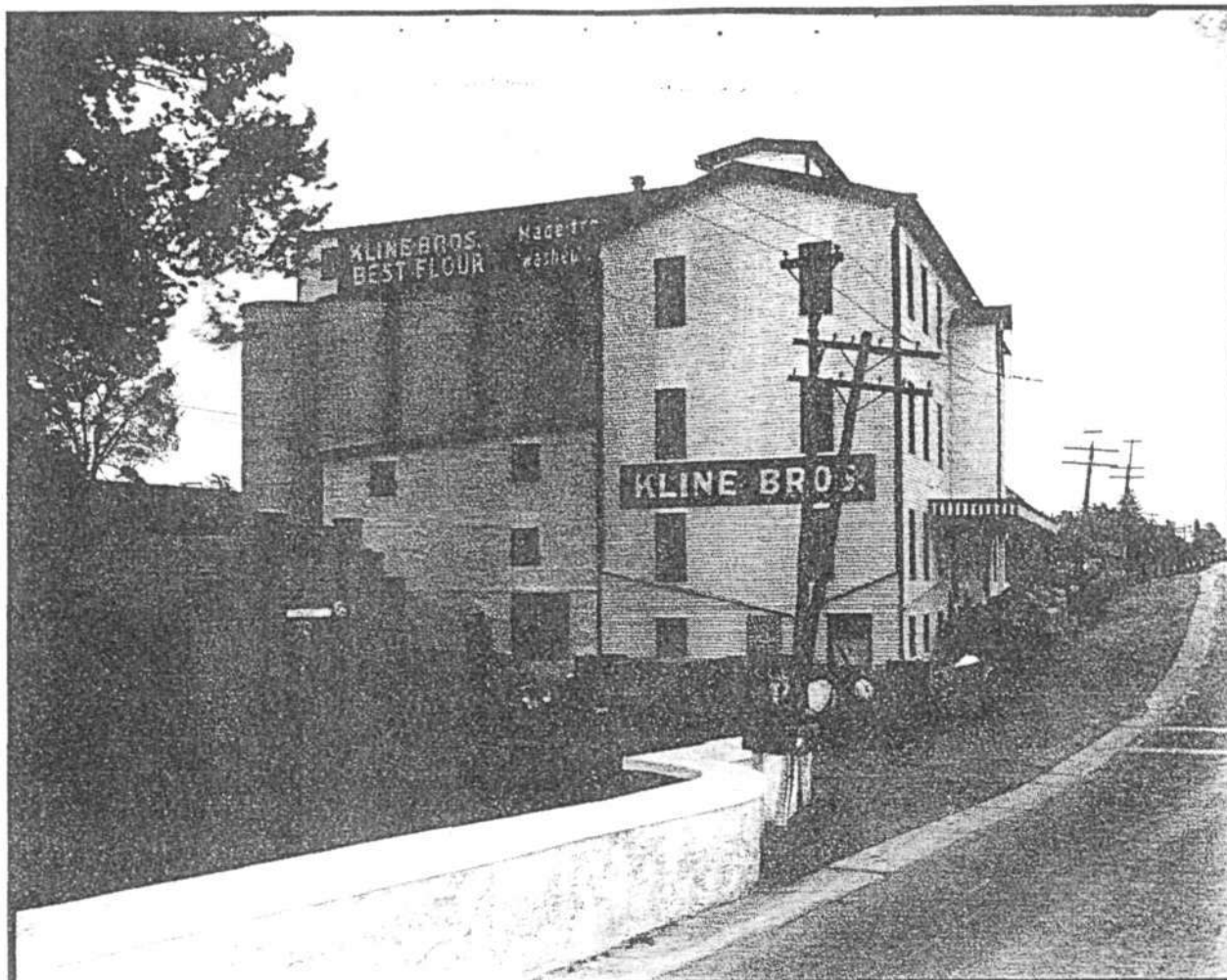
Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm
Washington Co., Maryland



Newcomer family butchering, c. 1940. (courtesy Richard and Kathleen Newcomer)

WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm
Washington Co., Maryland

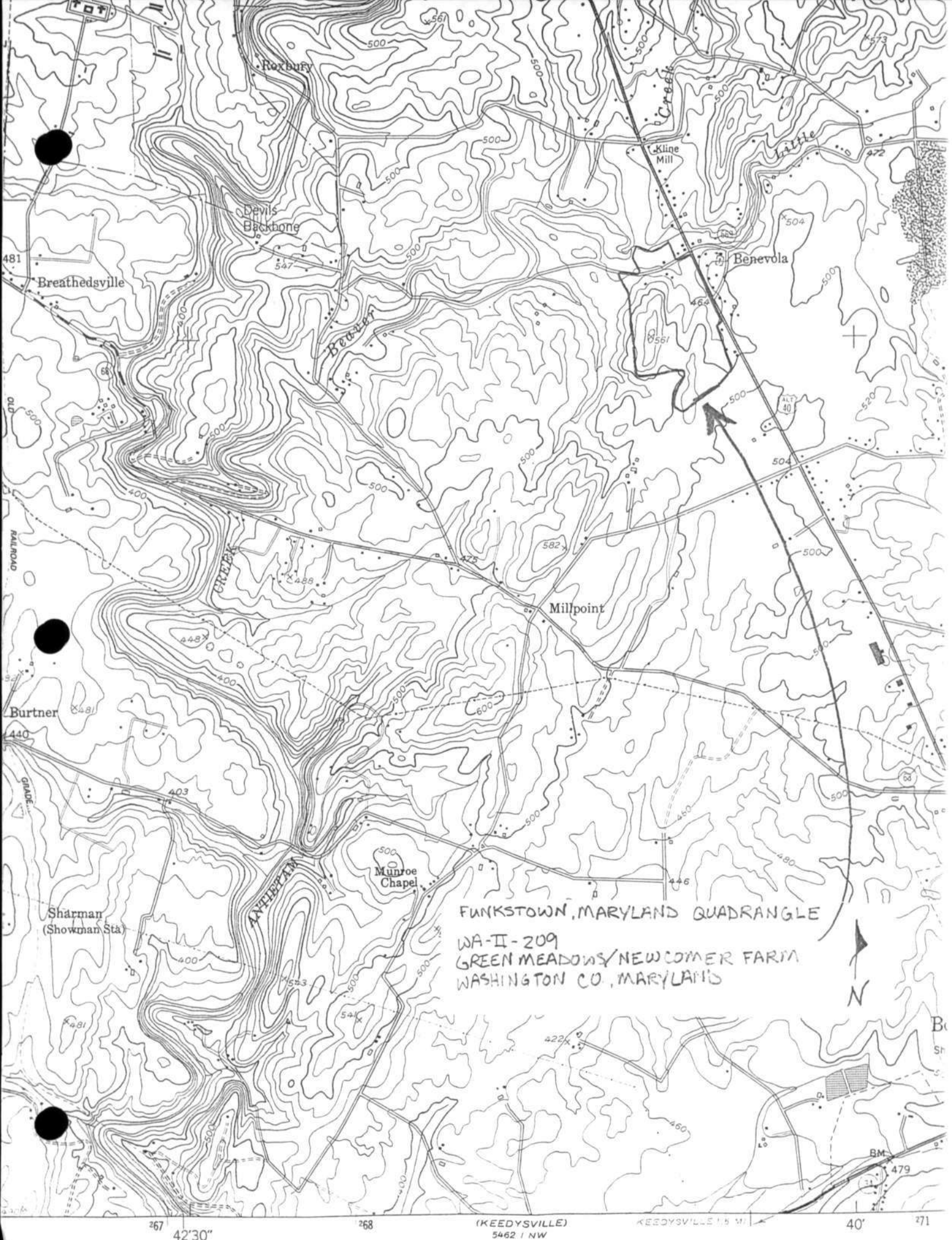


Kline's Mill on Beaver Creek, c. 1930. (Washington Co. Historical Society)

WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., Maryland



FUNKSTOWN, MARYLAND QUADRANGLE
WA-II-209
GREEN MEADOWS/NEWCOMER FARM
WASHINGTON CO, MARYLAND



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

overall view from Old National Pike, view NW

1/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

lime kiln structure, view west

2/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDS4PO

main house, E elevation, view W from Benevola Newcomer Rd.

3/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co, MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPC

main house, W and S elevations, view NE from
Benevola Newcomer Rd.

4/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

garage interior, blacksmith shop addition, S wall

5/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDS4PO

garage interior, workshop, view NW

6/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

outbuilding complex, N side of Benevola Newcomer Rd.,
view NW from houseyard

T/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

shed roofed spring and butchering area, view West

8/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

cold room/storage shed adjoining spring,
view NW

9/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

hog pen, S and E elevations, view NW

10/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSH-PO

hog pen interior, W wall corn crib area, view NW

11/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

hog pen interior, E wall pen area, view NE

12/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

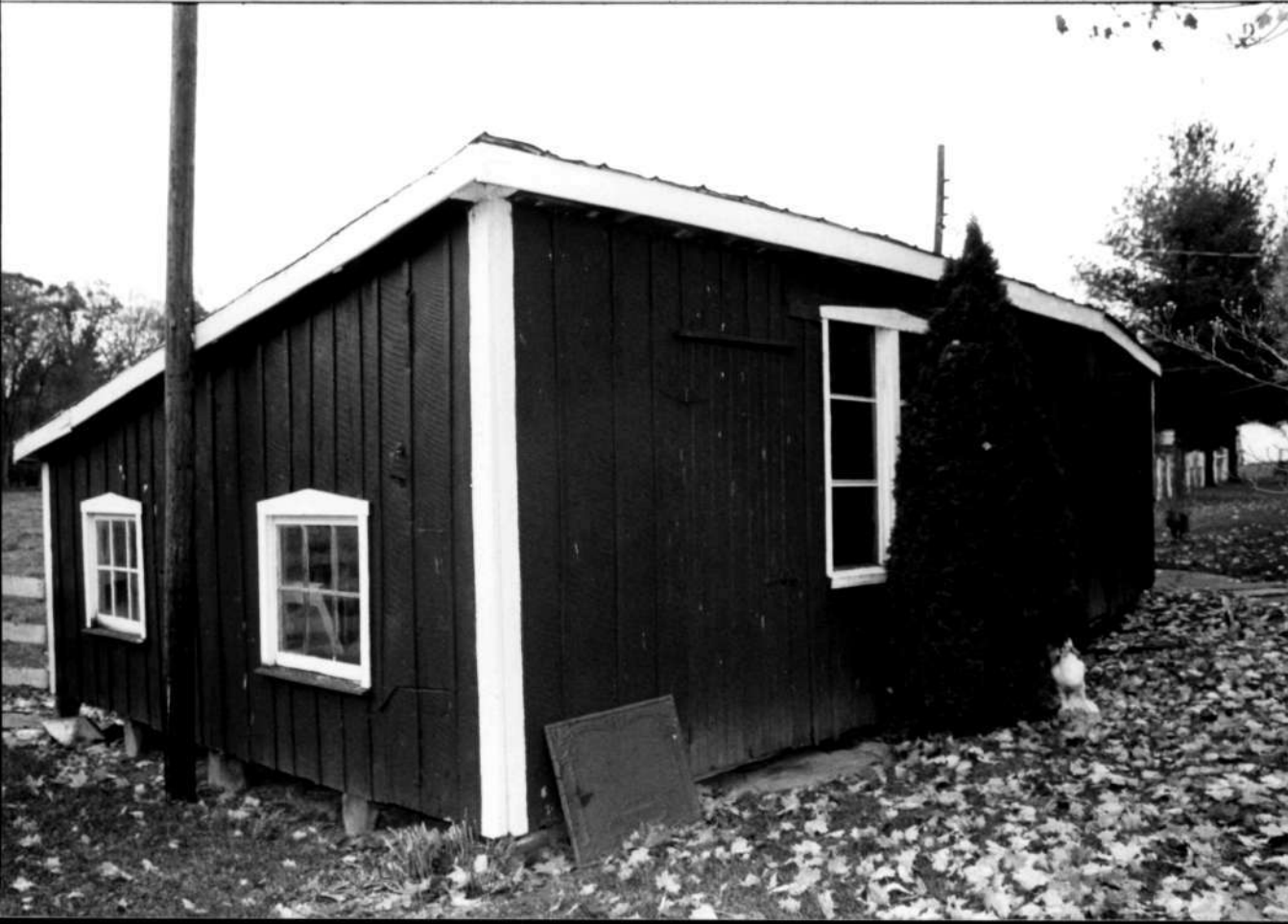
E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

Chicken house, W and S elevations, view NE

13/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

chicken house, W and S elevations, view NE
E end of building includes privy and woodshed

14/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSAPO

Smoke house with freezer room added on W side, S
and E elevations, wood shed in background,
view NW

15/
32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDS4PO

buggy shed, E elevation, view W, adjoining barn

16/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

buggy shed interior, timber frame detail, S wall

17/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

12/02

MDSHPO

barn, E and N elevations, view SW

18/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Hencomer Farm
Washington Co., MD
E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

barn. No elevation with corneris and equipment
shed addition

19/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newscower Farm

Washington Co., MD

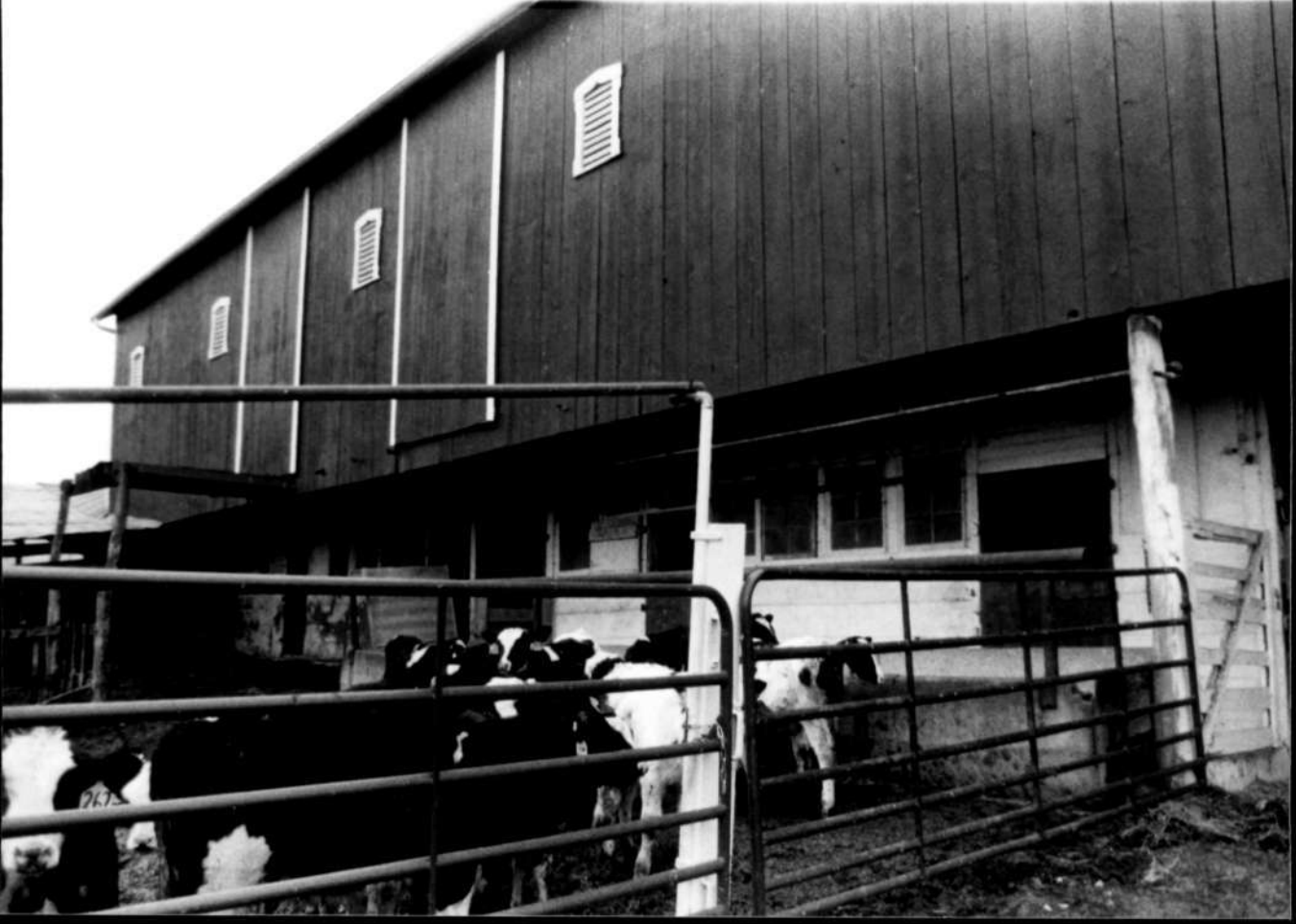
E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

barn, incorporated wagonshed/corncrib interior,
N wall cornerib

20/
32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

barn, E elevation, cantilevered forebay, view SW

21
/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co, MD

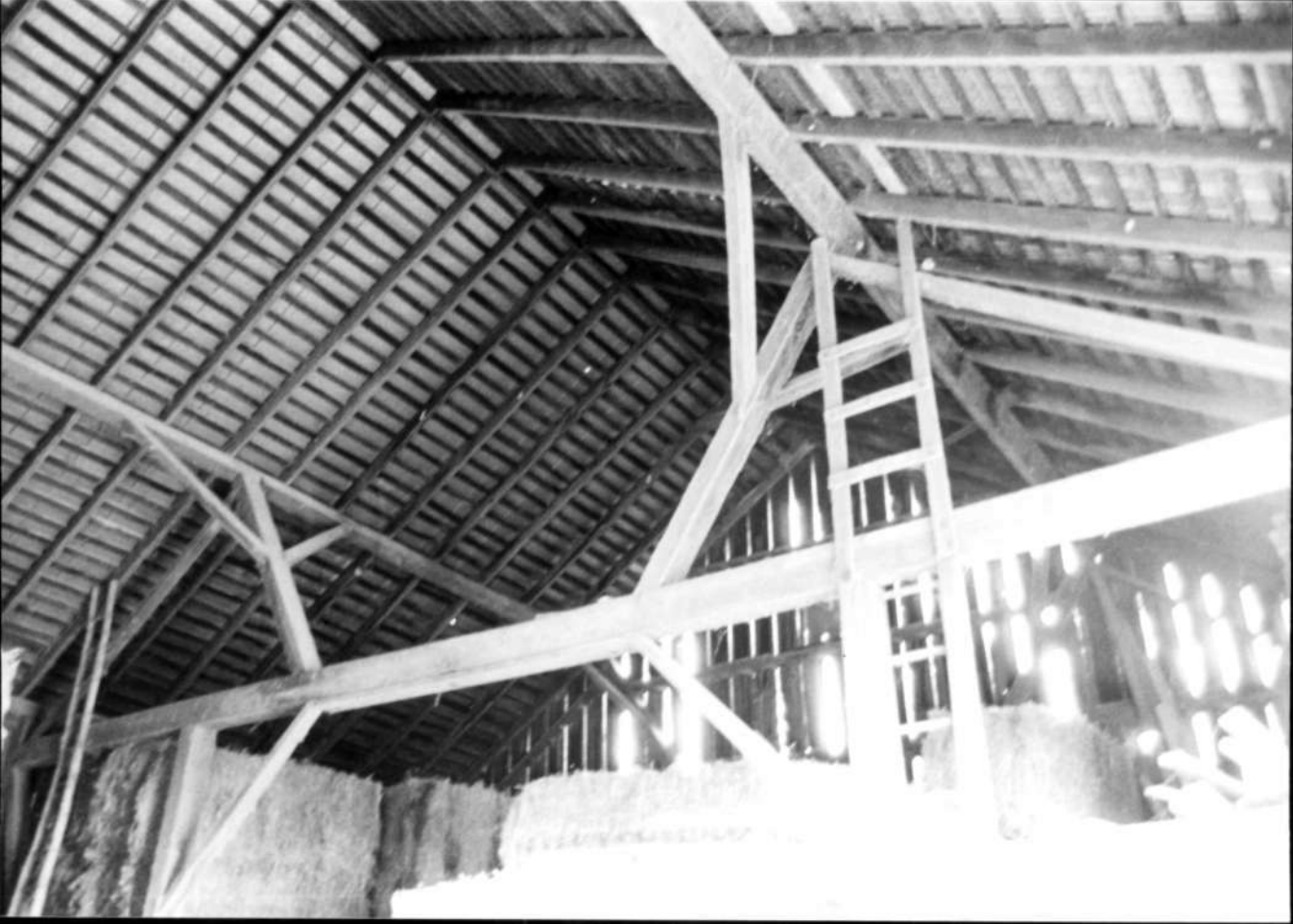
E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

barn, W and S elevations view NE

22/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSAPO

barn, framing detail

23/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MSAPO

barn, interior upper level, hay mow view toward
S end

24/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newscomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

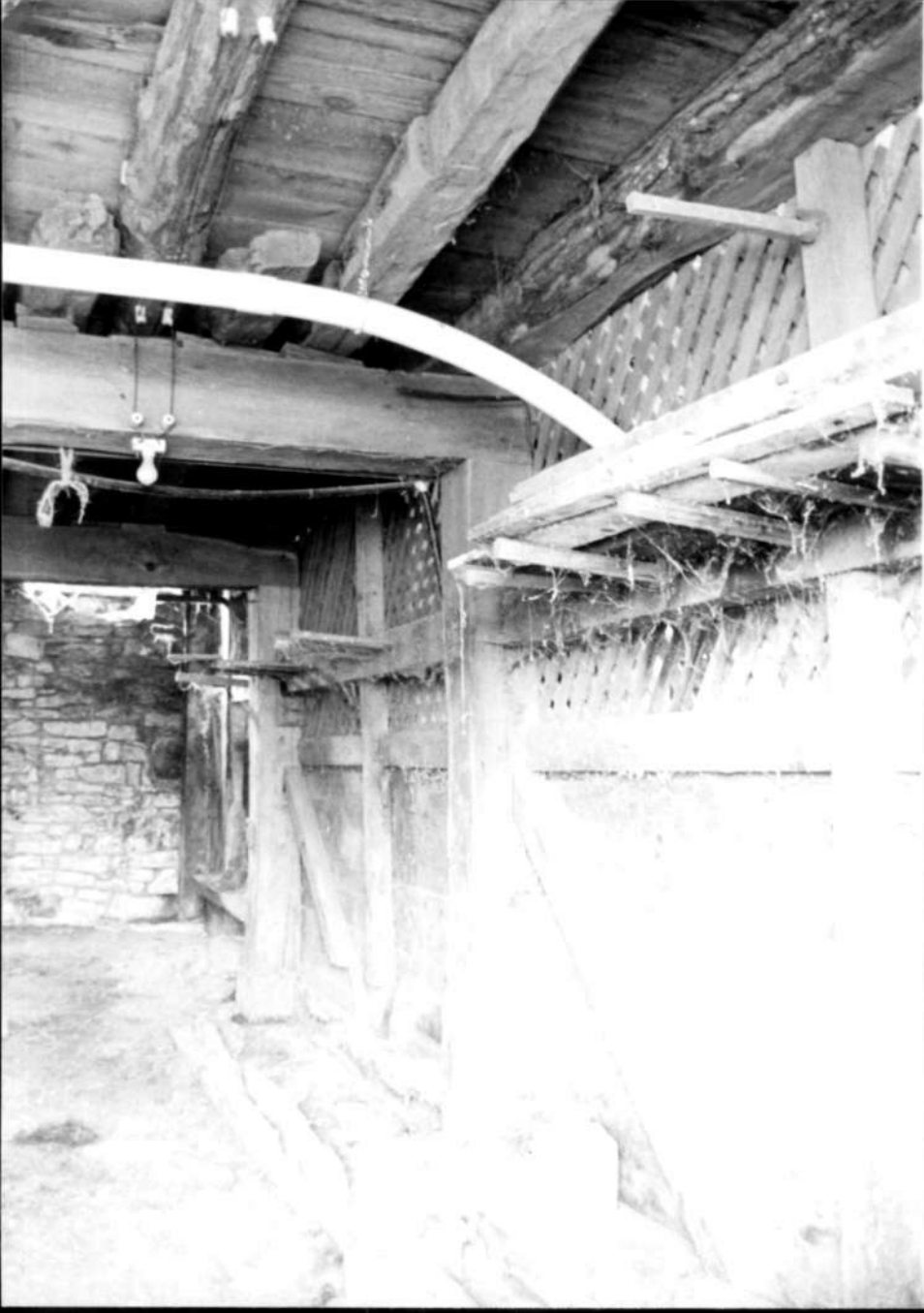
E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

barn, interior, upper level, granary, view toward
E wall

25/
32



WA-II - 209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co, MD

E. Wallace

3/1/02

MDS4PO

boar, lower stall's interior, framing detail

26/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MD SHPO

barren, lower stalls interior, milking stanchions

27/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSH PO

barnyard, view SE from E side of barn

28/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSAPO

loading shed, S side of barnyard, attached to
E side of barn and N side of hay barn,
view E

29/32



WA-II - 209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

barn (S elevation); loading shed (center); hay barn (W elevation)
view E toward Old National Pike

30/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows / Newcenter Farm

Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

11/02

MDSHPO

hay barn and corn crib, w elevations, view SE

31/32



WA-II-209

Green Meadows/Newcomer Farm
Washington Co., MD

E. Wallace

12/02

MDSHPO

barn, view SW

32/32

ABSTRACT
WA-II-209
Green Meadows
Benevola Vicinity
private

19th Century

This complex consists of a two story, three bay brick house and a frame bank barn. The house would appear to have been built during the third quarter of the 19th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-II-209
District 6
Map 63 & 68
Parcel 3
MAGI # 2207935535

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Green Meadows

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Newcomer Road

CITY, TOWN

Benevola

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Richard H. Newcomer

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Route # 1

CITY, TOWN

Boonsboro

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21713

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 307

Folio #: 098

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

WA-II-209

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED < 50%

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Green Meadows Farm, a dairy complex is located along both sides of Newcomer Road just west of its intersection with U.S. Route 40-A at Benevola in Washington County, Maryland. The buildings face east.

The house is a two story, three bay brick structure resting on low stone foundations. Its walls are constructed in common bond at all elevations and its entire surface has been painted red. Flat arches are present above the first story openings and a course of diagonally set bricks forms the eaves trim. From the rear of the house extends a frame addition sheathed with composition siding.

Windows have narrow frames and hold six over six pane sashes. Pairs of louvered shutters at each window are modern. The main entrance is located in the center bay of the front elevation. The door is hung beneath a narrow transom. A one bay flat roofed entrance porch is supported by square chamfered posts with scroll cut brackets.

Brick chimneys with corbels at their tops are located inside the end walls. A modern flue has been built against the chimney at the north wall.

On the opposite side of the road from the house is a large frame bank barn. In its walls are louvered ventilators trimmed with late 19th century style architraves. Round metal ventilators with decorative trim are set on the roof ridge. Numerous agricultural sheds and out-buildings are located nearby. The buildings are in excellent condition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This complex consists of a two story, three bay brick house and a frame bank barn. The house would appear to have been built during the third quarter of the 19th century. Its painted surface is very typical of 19th century exterior finish.

This farm has been in the possession of the Newcomer family for many years and it is from this family the Newcomer Road was named.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 135.67 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey; Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

March 1978

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



Frankston
quad

WA-II-209

MYERSVILLE (JUN. 17) 46 MI.
POPELEWICK 15 MI.



WA-II-209

S.E.

Oct. 1975

Green Meadows

Newcomer Road
Benevola

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-209

Barn N.E.

Oct. 1975

Green Meadows

Newcomer Road

Benevola

PAUL STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY